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**THE TOLL IN HUMAN LIVES**

It is good to have from Sir Douglas Haig the assurance that in July, the first month of the big offensive, the British casualties have been only five times what were in June, in the trenches. During July the British army has broken completely through the German first line running through Fricourt, and gone completely through the German second line from Pozieres to Bazentin, and is now wearing through the German third line close to Martinpuich. That is, the British army has put a wedge through the most formidable of the defences that were constructed during the twenty months the Germans have had possession of that part of France. If the cost of that effort had been half a million casualties, the same as the Germans suffered at Verdun, the price would have been cheap.

The British and French forces are now within striking distance of Comblès, the main German Point-of support between Bapaume and Peronne. The importance of the town lies in the fact that its possession almost ensures the forced evacuation of Peronne by the Germans, and clears the way for a stroke at Bapaume. That would entail the retirement of the Germans from Thiepval as far north as Hebuterne, and open up a wide front for attack in which British superiority in numbers and artillery could work with devastating effect. No matter how many other lines the Germans had behind that, the opportunity to use cavalry would soon come, and Cambrai could be regarded as a prospective prize. But before the Germans yield ground twenty or thirty miles back to Cambrai, their whole reserve strength will have been employed to stop the drive. They will become progressively weaker, instead of stronger, because their losses will wipe out their reinforcements as fast as they pour in. Already the slow, wearing drive of the British and French has brought on the fiercest resistance of which the Germans are capable. They are flinging into the fray their very best. The British official reports state that

German losses are heavier than those of Kitchener's battalions, though the latter attack. The lightness of the British losses is conclusive proof of high skill and thorough preparation, and removes one of the chief causes of anxiety regarding the offensive.

From various official quarters it is asserted that Britain's real strength will not be fully available until next Spring. Then, in artillery, in men, in all sorts of equipment, British weight will be irresistible. If what the Germans now say as to the terrific nature of British artillery pounding is true, what will it be like in 1917, should the war continue that long, when three times the artillery power will have been developed? What a far cry from that time in 1915, when the British army had only a week's reserve ammunition? General Haig's assurance that victory is but a matter of time seems to be well founded upon the continued enlargement of British and Russian war resources. Short defence lines will not avail to save Germany from the final crushing.

**MARITIME MEN IN CASUALTY LIST**

Ottawa, August 6—The casualties issued this afternoon were:

**Artillery**

Wounded—Gunner McDonald, Sydney.

**Infantry**

Seriously Ill—Benjamin Bates, Cape Breton.  
Wounded—Joseph Horrocks, Sydney Mines.

**Mounted Rifles**

Killed in action—George Rector, Londonderry, N.S.

**Artillery**

Wounded—Gunner Arthur T. Dale, South Maitland.

**Infantry**

Wounded—Harold E. Crosby, P.O. Box 128, Yarmouth; Arthur D. Porter, Hammond River, N. B.; Lt. John W. Wise, 126 South St., Halifax.

Ottawa, Aug. 6—The casualties issued at midnight were:

**Infantry**

Wounded—Thomas Marshall, Sand Cove Road, St John; Acting Sergeant Charles H. Richardson, St John.

**Medical Services**

Wounded—Driver Raymond C. Blakney, 45 Allen St., Halifax

**Artillery**

Died of wounds—Gunner Joshua Coombs, Upper Island Cove District, N.S.  
Wounded—Gunner Jas Bowler, 53 Rottenburg St, Halifax

**Mounted Rifles**

Wounded—Joseph J. Keehan, Hampton, N. B.

**Engineers**

Wounded—Sapper John S. McNeil, Shubenacadie, N.S.

**WILL PNEUMONIA LOSE ITS TERRORS**

Kansas City, August 7—Treatment of pneumonia, which should end the sickness in three to six days was described today before the convention of the American Osteopathic Association by Dr. Fulham. "Pneumonia treatment is mismanaged if it continues longer than six days," said Dr. Fulham.

**STEAMER SPIRAL SUNK**

London, Aug. 7—A despatch to Lloyds from West Hartlepool says that the British steamer Spiral has been sunk by a submarine.

**Retreat vs. Rout**

**Chesterton Explains Difference and Inevitably Tells the Truth About British Army After Mons**

In a late appreciation of Philip Gibbs, the distinguished war correspondent of the London Daily Chronicle and his report of "The catastrophe when the line of the great Alliance went down at Mons," Gilbert K. Chesterton popularly explains the technical difference between a retreat and a rout. His way of putting it is piquant and illuminating, and worth reading. He writes of Gibbs and his report as follows:

"His despatches from the front were full of facts and images calculated to make us imagine the meaning of a retreat; but he added no needless word to make us despair of it. Above all, anyone reading his account, down to its most pathetic intimacies of pain and labor, kept firmly in mind the impression that the process under consideration was a retreat and not a rout. The writers upon the Yellow Press seemed really to be under the impression that two things are the same; and even people more reputable and patriotic than they are were ready to treat the difference as one of degree, and therefore to excuse the fallacy as a form of exaggeration. Of course the difference between a retreat and a rout is not in the least one of degree; it is as absolute a difference of kind as the difference between moving the king out of check and kicking over the chess board. A RETREAT is an ordered movement from the taking up of a new position; it is accompanied by certain difficulties because it is a retreat; but those difficulties may, under certain circumstances, equally accompany an advance. A ROUT is, generally speaking, the end of an army; and it is one of the blackest marks upon our history that during the strained and difficult operations after Mons the end of the British Army was practically announced in a British newspaper. The account of the rout was almost as much of a national shame as the reality of the retreat was a national glory."

**Canada's Future Destiny Hangs on the Outcome of the Conflict**

(Sir Robert Borden)  
"If Canada has any part in the common civilization of the world, if she shares the higher conceptions of humanity, if she sets store by the greatness of her destiny as part of this Empire, if she looks forward to taking a worthy part in the future work of the world, if she values her own liberties and ideals, then assuredly she could not stand aside in a conflict such as this."

"The front line of Canada's defence in this war is in the North Sea and upon the plains of Europe."

"Two years ago we were plunged into war almost without warning. It is possible that within a year we may be suddenly plunged into peace, and it behooves not only the government, but the nation, to consider what will be the outcome."

"We enter, upon this third year with a supreme and abiding confidence that our cause will prevail and with an inflexible determination that for this our efforts shall not be spared. Canada consecrates herself anew to that great purpose in the unshrinking resolve that the cause for which her sons have fought and suffered and gloriously died, and in defence of which they have made her name undying, shall be crowned with the laurel of victory."

**REPORTED TURKISH CABINET HAS FALLEN**

London, Aug 7—An Exchange Telegraph Company despatch from Rome says that unconfirmed reports have been received there that the Turkish Cabinet has fallen.

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